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at the end of the book, betrays Professor Levasseur's weakness. He calls it, in his preface, "une liste sommaire, non de tous les textes que j'ai dépouillés, mais de livres publiés sur la matière qui peurent le plus utilement être consultés par les écrivains qui se proposeraient de l'étudier après moi"; and it is, distinctly, not even that. It appears to be merely a list of the books which the author has found it convenient to use, in cheerful disregard of others which would have modified their statement of fact or conclusion. It includes such present-day curiosities as Cibrario and Scherer, while it omits such studies as those by Guilmoto, Huvelin, Pauliat and Dahlgren, to cite merely names of authors who have written in French on French commerce; it omits practically all the writings by foreigners on French commerce; and, finally, it gives no hint of the existence of those studies in economic history which have been inspired by German scholarship, and which in form are often confined to German topics, but which have in fact transformed the study of the subject in all its fields, and which make the present book seem antiquated when it leaves the press.

CLIVE DAY.

Yale University.

Die Bergarbeiter. Historische Darstellung der Bergarbeiter Verhältnisse von der ältesten bis in die neueste Zeit. By OTTO HUE. Volume I. (Stuttgart: J. H. W. Dietz Nachfolger. 1910. Pp. viii, 455.)

The publication of this book is a testimonial to the great educational work done by organized labor in Germany. The author, member of the German Parliament, was engaged by the National Committee of the Union of Mine Workers to write a history of labor in the mining industry. The outcome has been a thorough-going study, in a very readable form, of the evolution of the mining industry and of the mine workers, of their economic condition and legal status, from the earliest days of history to the dawn of the capitalistic period. This is to be followed by a second volume which will deal with the condition of the miners under capitalism.

The mining industry up to the nineteenth century was confined to the extraction of the precious and base metals. In Egypt,

in Greece, in Rome, mining was the work of slaves, prisoners of war and convicts. The cruelty with which the miners were treated shocked even the sensibilities of Diodorus who lived in an age which did not breed "mollycoddles." An improvement in the condition of the miners came with the development of deep mining. So long as mining operations were pursued above ground, or in shallow drifts, it was feasible to concentrate hundreds of slaves under the supervision of armed guards. But the exhaustion of the easily accessible ore deposits necessitated deep mining. The miners were now scattered underground in small teams, and it became impossible to station a slave driver with each team. Moreover deep mining requires skill. The skilled mine slave became a valuable chattel. After all the accessible parts of the known world of that day had been brought under the domination of Rome, the supply of prisoners of war and slaves grew scarce in comparison with the increased demand for slave labor. The purchase price of slaves went up in consequence. A class of labor contractors came into being, from whom slaves could be hired. From this system there was but one step to serfdom.

After the fall of the Roman Empire, mining in mediaeval Germany was for a long time pursued as a subsidiary occupation connected with farming. The miner was obliged to deliver to the lord of the manor a share of the mining products. The growth of imports of articles of luxury stimulated the demand for precious metals. The feudal lords encouraged prospecting for gold and silver ore within their domains. A prerequisite for prospecting was freedom to go from place to place. Thus all miners were eventually given the rights of freemen.

The decline of precious metal mining in Germany after the discovery of the richer mines of America resulted in a deterioration of the condition of the German miners. The crude technical methods of the day brought out a scant return from the mines. In order to raise their royalties, the feudal proprietors increased the hours of labor from six hours per shift first to seven, then to eight, ten and up to twelve. Prior to the sixteenth century the miners celebrated on an average one church holiday in every fortnight, besides Sunday. The reformation reduced the number of church holidays, and the bishops of the Roman Catholic church likewise granted dispensation to the mine owners to operate

their mines on all but the most important church holidays. As the conditions of labor in the mines grew worse, labor troubles would occasionally break out and the miners would quit the mines and go elsewhere. In order to protect their royalties, the feudal states one after another curtailed the liberty of the miners to move from place to place. In this manner serfdom was virtually reintroduced for the miners and continued throughout the eighteenth century. The worst evils of child labor were common in the state mines.

Whatever may be said of the evil effects of the introduction of machinery under capitalism, Mr. Hue's book forcibly suggests the conclusion that the technical progress brought about by capitalism has greatly added to the sum of comfort enjoyed by the wage-workers.

ISAAC A. HOURWICH.

Washington.

NEW BOOKS

ANDREE, K. *Geographie des Welthandels. Eine wirtschaftsgeographische Schilderung der Erde.* (Frankfurt: H. Keller. 1912. Pp. viii, 920, maps. 14.50 m.)

BACHI, R. *L'Italia economica nel 1910.* (Turin: Societa tip. e. nazionale. 1911.)

BOURGIN, H. *L'industrie de la boucherie à Paris pendant la Révolution.* Bibliographie d'histoire de Paris, Vol. II. (Paris: Leroux. 4 fr.)

BRAUNGART, R. *Die Urheimat der Landwirtschaft aller indogermanischen Völker, an der Geschichte der Kulturpflanzen und Ackerbaugeräte in Mittel- und Nordeuropa nachgewiesen.* (Heidelberg: Carl Winter. 1912. Pp. viii, 470, illus. 30 m.)

BRINKMANN, C. *Wustrau, Wirtschafts- und Verfassungsgeschichte eines brandenburgischen Ritterguts.* Staats- und sozialwissenschaftliche Forschungen, No. 155. (Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot. 1911. Pp. vi, 163. 4 m.)

BROOKS, E. C. *The story of cotton and the development of the cotton states.* (Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co. 1911. Pp. x, 370. 75c.)

A supplementary reader designed for use in the seventh grade of our public schools, but deserving a wider circulation. The author, professor of education in Trinity College, North Carolina, presents in simple but interesting style the story of cotton culture and manufacturing, especially in the United States, also describes the economic development of the South and the relation of cotton